GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2057
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2003
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY;AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Ministry are slashing Rs. 800 crore from its2003-04 budget estimates meant for universalization of education programme and Mid-Day Meal Scheme as reported in Indian Express dated February 4, 2003;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have sought huge amount of funds for the purpose of some programmes regarding the elementary education;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government to develop a reasonable plan with a good chance of proper implementation for the benefit of illiterate urban and rural population?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

(a) to (e): Plan allocation to the tune of Rs.6782.25 crores was projected during 2003-04 for schemes under Elementary Education including the schemes of Universalization of Elementary Educationand Mid-day-Meal against which Rs.4667.00 croreshave been provided. Allocation of more funds has been sought from the Finance Ministry and Planning Commission.

Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the districts preparethe District Elementary Education Plans (DEEP)based on detailed analysis of their requirements projected through habitation level planning with community involvement. These plans are then appraised by a team of experts and then approved by the Project Approval Board. In the year 2002-2003, plans of 592 districts have been approved till 28-2-2003.